ASTONISHING STORIES OF THE SUPERNATURAL 10¢

ON SALE EVERY MONTH!

Astonishing

ATLAS

THE MOST ASTONISHING TALES EVER TOLD!

OCT. NO. 18

JACK THE RIPPER!

THE LAST KKRUL!

MAN WITH A TAIL!

"VAMPIRE AT MY WINDOW!"

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

JACK THE RIPPER

THERE IS AN ANCIENT GRAVEYARD IN ENGLAND WHERE PAUPERS, THIEVES AND MURDERERS ARE BURIED IN THE MOULDERING GROUND.. AND HERE A VISITOR SEARCHES...

THERE ARE NO WITNESSES TO WHAT HAPPENS... BECAUSE ONLY THE VERY BRAVE AND THE VERY FOOLISH WANDER INTO THAT CEMETERY...

THERE IS ONLY A QUIET WHISPER OF DEATH IN THE WIND, BUT THAT WHISPER GOES UNHEARD IN THE SILENCE...

THE UNSOLVED RIDDLE WAS... "HOW COULD A MAN BE DEAD, AND STILL COMMIT MURDER..."

THE EDITORS GUARANTEE THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST *ASTONISHING* STORIES YOU'VE EVER READ!

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN ASTONISHING TALES #18

EXTRY! EXTRY! JACK STRIKES AGAIN!
JACK THE RIPPER BAFFLES SCOTLAND YARD!
JACK THE RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN!
NO CLUES IN JACK THE RIPPER MURDER!!

BUT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC, THERE ARE MEN WHO HAVE DIFFERENT IDEAS ABOUT THE MURDER...

...AND I SAY IT'S ABSURD! IMPOSSIBLE! JACK THE RIPPER DIED OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO! A DEAD MAN DOESN'T COMMIT MURDER!
WHAT ABOUT THE STORY IN THE NEWSPAPERS?
JACK THE RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN!

PAPERS... BAH! EITHER THE BRITISH HAVE BEEN MADE FOOLS OF, OR THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE FOOLS OF US!
THAT'S IT... A HOAX! THE BRITISH ARE PERPETRATING A HOAX ON THE WORLD...

HE ARRIVES IN ENGLAND THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, TO BE GREETED BY THE DENSE LONDON FOG, THE SHROUD THAT HIDES MANY SECRETS...

SOMEWHERE IN THIS CITY IS JACK THE RIPPER'S GRAVE! I'VE GOT TO FIND IT!

HIS FIRST STOP IS THE FAMOUS BUILDING THAT HOUSES THE LONDON DETECTIVE FORCE... SCOTLAND YARD...

THEY CAN GIVE ME SOME CLUE AS TO WHERE HE WAS KILLED, THEN BURIED!

GO RIGHT IN, SIR! OFFICER KILMARTIN WILL SEE YOU!

BUT HIS RECEPTION IS NOT AS HE EXPECTED IT TO BE...

AND FURTHERMORE, SIR, I SUGGEST THAT YOU TAKE THE NEXT PLANE BACK TO AMERICA, AND LEAVE THE SOLVING OF CRIMES TO THE POLICE...

WELL, I.. I NEVER! IF THAT'S THE ATTITUDE YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE, SIR, THEN I'LL GO ABOUT THIS ON MY OWN... WITHOUT YOUR HELP! GOOD DAY!

AFTER MUCH DILIGENT SEARCHING, HENRY FULTON FINALLY ARRIVES AT A SMALL, BROKEN-DOWN PAUPER'S GRAVE NEAR EAST END...

HEY, OLD MAN, I WANT TO KNOW IF THIS IS THE PLACE THEY BURIED JACK THE RIPPER...

EH? JACK THE RIPPER, YA SAY? YES SIR, THEY BURIED HIM HERE ABOUT TWENTY YEARS AGO...

SHOW ME WHERE THEY BURIED HIM AND I'LL GIVE YOU, THIS...

OVER THERE! DOWN THE OTHER SIDE... THE SMALL, BLACK STONE THAT'S LYIN' ON ITS SIDE! IT'S HAUNTED, I TELL YA...

BAH! I DON'T BELIEVE IN THOSE CRAZY SUPERSTITIONS! COME, SHOW ME!

THAT'S AS FAR AS I GO! I SHOWED YA WHERE HE'S BURIED! THAT'S WHERE THEY PUT... JACK THE RIPPER!

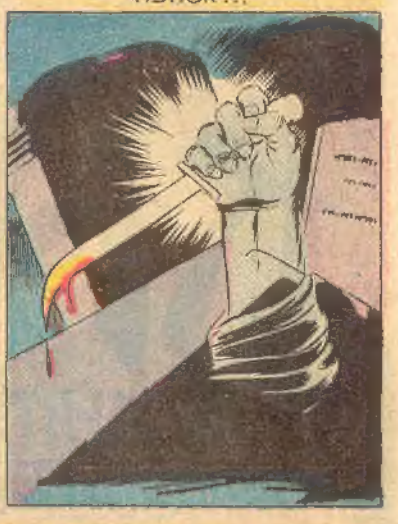
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE FRIGHTENED KEEPER RUNS OFF, AND THEN THERE IS ONLY THE SILENCE OF THE DEAD, AND THE WHISPER OF THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS...
HE SAID IT WAS OVER IN THIS DIRECTION! THE BLACK STONE...
I'VE GOT A STRANGE FEELING THAT I'M CLOSE TO FINDING WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! I CAN ALMOST FEEL THE PRESENCE OF JACK THE RIPPER!
OUT OF THE TOMB IT COMES...
INTO THE COLD NIGHT FOG...
THE MEMORY OF TERROR AND HATE...
INTENT ON DEATH...
SUDDENLY, FULTON WHIRLS, AND...
JACK THE RIPPER! NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! YOU'RE DEAD!
AAIIEEE!
R.I.P
4

HIS BLOODY TASK COMPLETED, THE SPECTRE RETREATS FROM HIS VICTIM...

RETURNING TO HIS EARTHLY REMAINS BURIED SIX FEET BELOW THE EARTH...

TO AWAIT ANOTHER NIGHT, ANOTHER FOG, ANOTHER VISITOR...



THIS IS THE MURDERER'S GRAVE OF JACK THE RIPPER...

ON ANOTHER GREY, DRIZZLING MORNING, LONDONERS ON THEIR WAY TO WORK HEAR THE SHOCKING NEWSBOY'S CRY...

BUT ACROSS THE SEAS, IN AMERICA... A FAMOUS MEN'S CLUB IS DISCUSSING THE LATEST NEWS...

BAH! WHAT DO THOSE BRITISHERS TAKE US FOR? FOOLS?
THIS IS JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE BRITISH HOAXES... WE'LL SHOW THEM!
JACK THE RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN!
5

VAMPIRE AT THE WINDOW

SCRIPT: STAN LEE
IT ALL STARTED WHEN REGINALD RUDLEY SAW A VAMPIRE TRYING TO GET INTO HIS BEDROOM WINDOW...
ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN ASTONISHING TALES #18

LIKE ANY OTHER NORMAL GUY WOULD DO, RUDLEY RAN HYSTERICALLY OUT OF HIS BEDROOM AND INTO THE STREET...

...AND PRACTICALLY INTO MY ARMS, AS I SAT IN MY HOLE-IN-THE-WALL OFFICE, WONDERING WHATEVER MADE ME DECIDE TO BECOME A PRIVATE EYE.

OKAY PAL... THE FUN'S OVER! GO BACK TO YOUR KEEPER BEFORE HE COMES FOR YA!
WAIT DON'T! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M TELLING THE TRUTH! THERE IS A VAMPIRE AT MY WINDOW!

MAYBE THERE WERE BATS IN MY BELFRY, TOO... BUT SOMETHING IN HIS VOICE SOUNDED TO ME LIKE HE MIGHT BE TELLING THE TRUTH, SO I WENT BACK TO HIS APARTMENT WITH HIM.

FROM WHAT I REMEMBER ABOUT THE HORROR STORIES I READ, A GUN AIN'T NO GOOD AGAINST A FULL-FLEDGED, DYED-IN-THE-WOOL VAMPIRE!
THIS IS MY FLOOR!

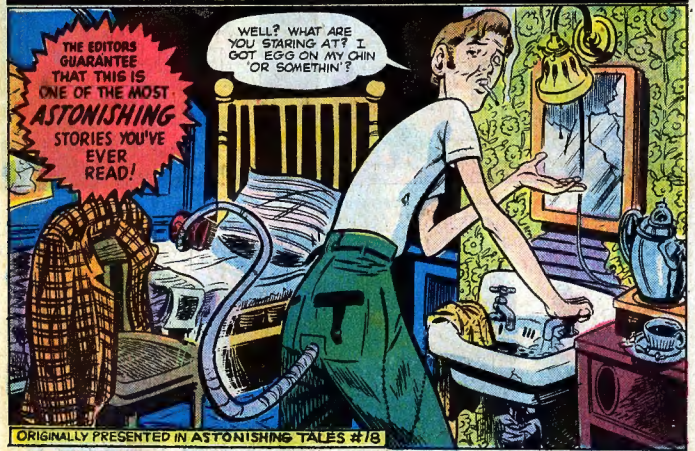
AND THEN I SAW ITS SHADOW ON THE WALL.

MY CLIENT CLAWED AT MY JACKET AS HE WHINED HYSTERICALLY.

I PREPARED FOR ACTION AS I THREW MY JACKET OFF.

MAN WITH A TAIL

LIFE MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT FOR BENJY MATZNIK! IF ONLY...BUT WHY TALK ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN?


THE EDITORS GUARANTEE THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST ASTONISHING STORIES YOU'VE EVER READ!
WELL? WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT? I GOT EGG ON MY CHIN OR SOMETHIN'?

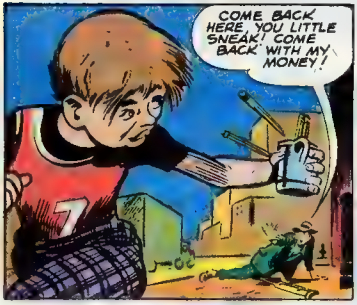
ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN ASTONISHING TALES #18

AS IT WAS, BENJY'S MOTHER DIED IN A COLD, DINGY TENEMENT A FEW DAYS AFTER HIS BIRTH...

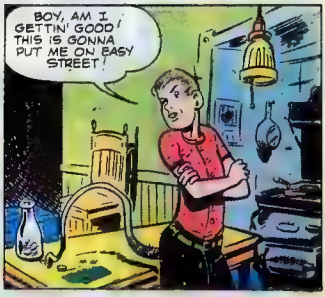
HIS FATHER WAS KILLED IN A BATTLE BETWEEN RIVAL BOOT-LEG MOBS WITHOUT EVER SEEING HIS NEW-BORN SON...

AND BENJY WAS RAISED BY A GRAND-MOTHER WHO WASN'T EVEN INTERESTED IN THE BOY'S PECULIAR...TAIL!

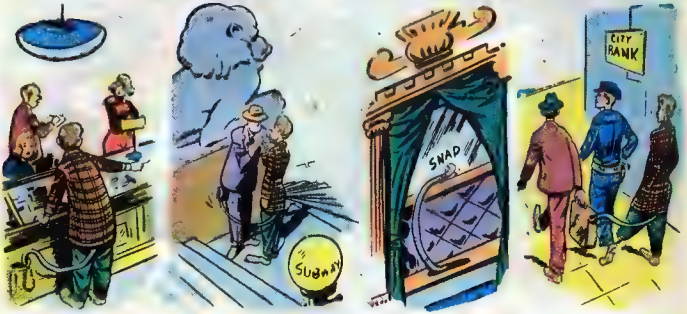
GROWING UP IN THE ROUGH, DIRTY SLUMS, BENJY QUICKLY LEARNED TO FIGHT AND CHEAT AND STEAL...



YEARS LATER, HE STOPPED BEING ASHAMED OF HIS TAIL, AND DECIDED THERE WERE LOTS OF GOOD USES FOR IT...



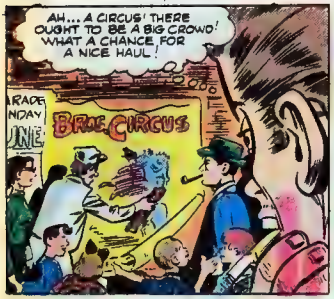
AS TIME WENT BY, HE BECAME BOTH MORE ADEPT AND MORE DARING IN HIS CRIMES...



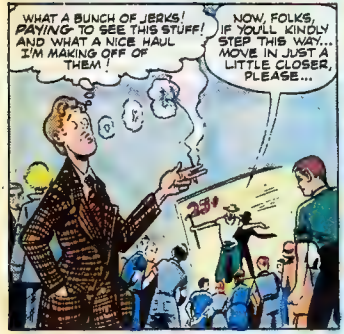
THE LAW WAS NEVER ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH HIM...

AND HE DEVELOPED A FANTASTIC AND FRIGHTENING REPUTATION!

FOR YEARS BENJY MATZNIK PROSPERED, AND FOR YEARS HE AVOIDED THE PENALTY FOR HIS CRIMES! THEN, ONE DAY...

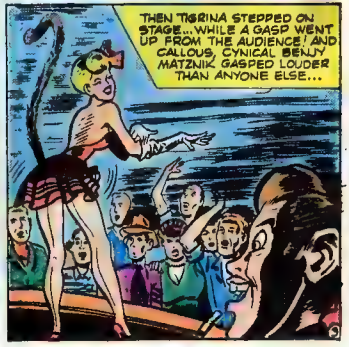


STEP RIGHT UP, FOLKS! COME RIGHT IN! ON THE INSIDE OF THIS TENT WE HAVE ASSEMBLED THE STRANGEST AND MOST MYSTIFYING ATTRACTIONS FROM ALL THE CORNERS OF THE WORLD! HURRY, HURRY, HURRY! SEE THE MIDGETS, THE FAT GIRL, THE AMAZING SWORD SWALLOWER...

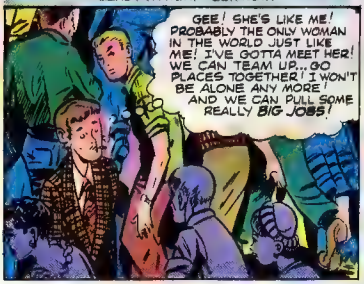

WHAT A BUNCH OF JERKS! PAYING TO SEE THIS STUFF! AND WHAT A NICE HAUL I'M MAKING OFF OF THEM!
NOW, FOLKS, IF YOU'LL KINDLY STEP THIS WAY... MOVE IN JUST A LITTLE CLOSER, PLEASE...

THE BIGGER THE CROWD, THE BETTER FOR ME...
THAT'S RIGHT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! JUST ONE MORE QUARTER ENTITLES YOU TO SEE THE WORLD'S MOST AMAZING, MOST FANTASTIC WOMAN!

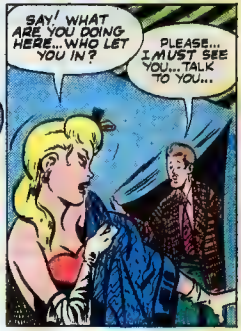
FOLKS, IN JUST ONE MINUTE YOU'LL SEE TIGRINA! NOT ONLY IS SHE ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN YOU'VE EVER SEEN, BUT TIGRINA WILL ASTOUND YOU! DON'T FAINT, GIRLS...DON'T SHUDDER, FELLOWS! TIGRINA IS HUMAN...BUT MORE THAN HUMAN! IT IS A PLEASURE AND PRIVILEGE TO INTRODUCE...TIGRINA!


THEN TIGRINA STEPPED ON STAGE...WHILE A GASP WENT UP FROM THE AUDIENCE! AND CALLOUS, CYNICAL BENJY MATZNIK GASPED LOUDER THAN ANYONE ELSE...

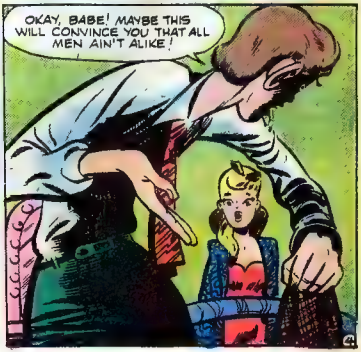
TIGRINA'S ACT WAS BRIEF... SHE JUST STOOD THERE A FEW MOMENTS, THEN VANISHED BEHIND THE CURTAIN AGAIN! BUT SHE LEFT A VERY THOUGHTFUL BENJY MATZNIK BEHIND...

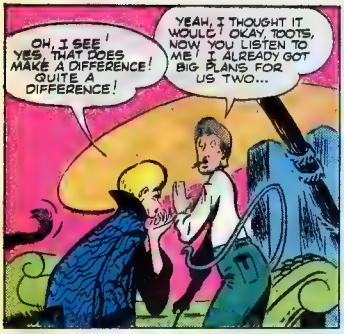

GEE! SHE'S LIKE ME! PROBABLY THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE WORLD JUST LIKE ME! I'VE GOTTA MEET HER! WE CAN TEAM UP... GO PLACES TOGETHER! I WON'T BE ALONE ANY MORE! AND WE CAN PULL SOME REALLY BIG JOBS!

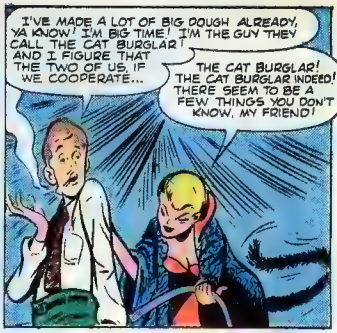
OKAY, RUBE! I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT! YOU WISE-GUYS ALWAYS THINK YOU GOTTA MEET TIGRINA! WELL, SHE DON'T WANT A BE BOTHERED BY NOSY YOKELS, SEE...
BUT WAIT A MINUTE! LET ME EXPLAIN! THIS IS DIFFERENT! I...I...



YEAH, YEAH! I'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE, CHUM! YOU MEN JUST WANT A CHANCE TO BRAG TO YOUR DUMB PALS THAT YOU HAD A DATE WITH A FREAK, DON'T YOU? WELL, YOU MAKE ME SICK, YOU UNDERSTAND? SICK!




OH, I SEE! YES, THAT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE! QUITE A DIFFERENCE!
YEAH, I THOUGHT IT WOULD! OKAY, TOOTS, NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME! I ALREADY GOT BIG PLANS FOR US TWO...


I'VE MADE A LOT OF BIG DOUGH ALREADY, YA KNOW! I'M BIG TIME! I'M THE GUY THEY CALL THE CAT BURGLAR! AND I FIGURE THAT THE TWO OF US, IF WE COOPERATE...
THE CAT BURGLAR! THE CAT BURGLAR INDEED! THERE SEEM TO BE A FEW THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW, MY FRIEND!

BENJY MATZNIK WAS SHOCKED AND FRIGHTENED..

AS HE STRUGGLED TO ESCAPE, HIS MIND WORKED SWIFTLY...

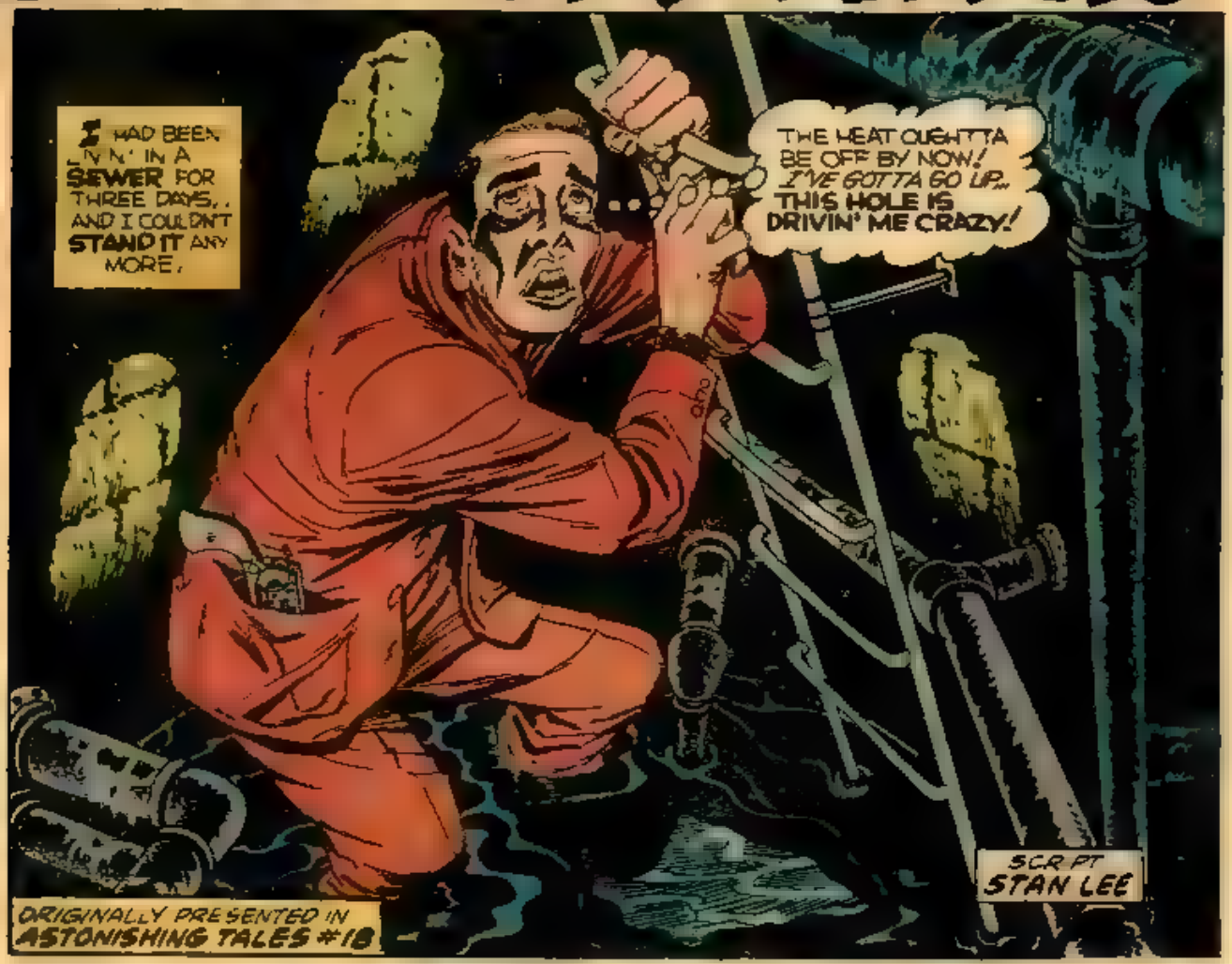
BUT HE COULD FIND NO REASON FOR TIGRINA'S SAVAGE ATTACK...

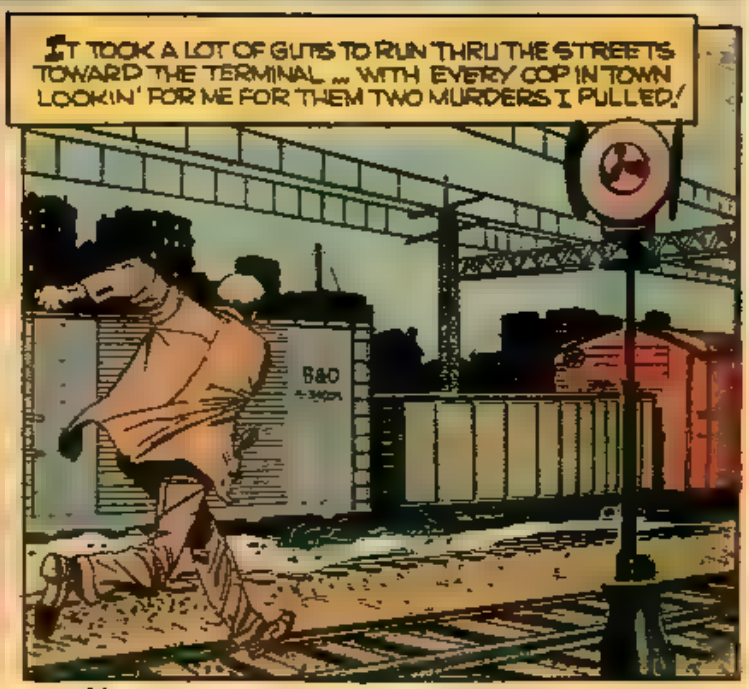
NATURE HAD MEANT THEM TO BE FRIENDS! WHAT COULD BE WRONG WITH HER?

BUT...BUT...WHY? WHAT? I THOUGHT... I WANTED... WE'RE ALIKE! WE COULD HAVE...
AAAARRGHH!
OH, YOU FOOL! YOU COMPLETE, UTTER FOOL!
5

ALIKE, ARE WE? DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING? YOU'RE NOT A CAT BURGLAR, YOU FOOL! I'M ONE OF THE CAT PEOPLE! BUT YOU... YOU'RE A MOUSE!
THE END

THE SWEET OLD LADIES


I HAD BEEN LYIN' IN A SEWER FOR THREE DAYS,.. AND I COULDN'T STAND IT ANY MORE.
THE HEAT OUGHTTA BE OFF BY NOW! I'VE GOTTA GO UP... THIS HOLE IS DRIVIN' ME CRAZY!
SCRIPT STAN LEE
ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN ASTONISHING TALES #18


IT TOOK A LOT OF GUTS TO RUN THRU THE STREETS TOWARD THE TERMINAL ... WITH EVERY COP IN TOWN LOOKIN' FOR ME FOR THEM TWO MURDERS I PULLED!
B&O

ONLY ONE GUY STOOD BETWEEN ME AND A FREIGHT THAT WAS JUST PULLING OUT!

I HAD KILLED TWO PEOPLE ALREADY, ANOTHER ONE DIDN'T BOTHER ME!

ARGGHHH

FIVE MINUTES LATER, I WAS ON MY WAY OUTTA TOWN!

HOPE THE NEXT BURG I COME TO AIN'T GOT TOO MANY COPS!

I DROPPED OFF THE FREIGHT AT A DEAD LOOKING WHISTLE-STOP NAMED SLOWFALLS! I DIDN'T FIGURE THEY EVEN HAD A POLICE DEPARTMENT IN A HICK TOWN LIKE THAT!

SLOWFALLS! THAT'S FOR ME!

WELCOME TO SLOWFALLS

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MOSEY UP THE DIRT ROAD THAT THEY CALLED MAIN STREET. THE ONLY COP I SAW WAS OLD ENOUGH TO BE THE ONE WHO HAD ARRESTED NERO FOR STARTIN' A FIRE!

EVENIN', OFFICER!

EH? OH YEAH. GOOD EVENIN', YOUNG FELLA!

I CAN'T WALK AROUND HERE ALL DAY! I GOTTA FIND A JOINT TO HEIST. I'M FLAT BROKE!

AND THEN I SAW IT! A LITTLE PINK AND WHITE COTTAGE WITH A COUPLE OF SWEET OLD LADIES WALKIN' IN!

BAG-THER! THAT'S MADE TO ORDER!

I CASED THE JOINT FOR A WHILE... FOUR MORE SWEET LITTLE OLD LADIES WENT IN WHILE I WAS WATCHIN'!

THIS IS GONNA BE SO EASY, I'M ALMOST ASHAMED OF MYSELF!

OH WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL GET IT OVER WITH!

KNOCK KNOCK

I KNEW IT MUST BE A CANASTA CLUB OR A SEWING CIRCLE... OR TEA AND TOAST! WHATEVER IT WAS, I'D HAVE ALL THEIR MONEY AND JEWELS AND BE ON MY WAY TO THE NEXT TOWN BEFORE THEY EVEN KNEW WHAT HAD HAPPENED!

KNOCK KNOCK

YES?

COULD YOU GIVE A HUNGRY MAN SOMETHING TO EAT, LADY?

LAND SAKES, YES! COME IN, YOU POOR BOY!

THANK YOU, MA'AM!

NOW WILL YA ALL GIVE ME YOUR MONEY AND JEWELRY WITHOUT ANY FUSS?!!!

MERCY ME!! IT'S A ROBBER!

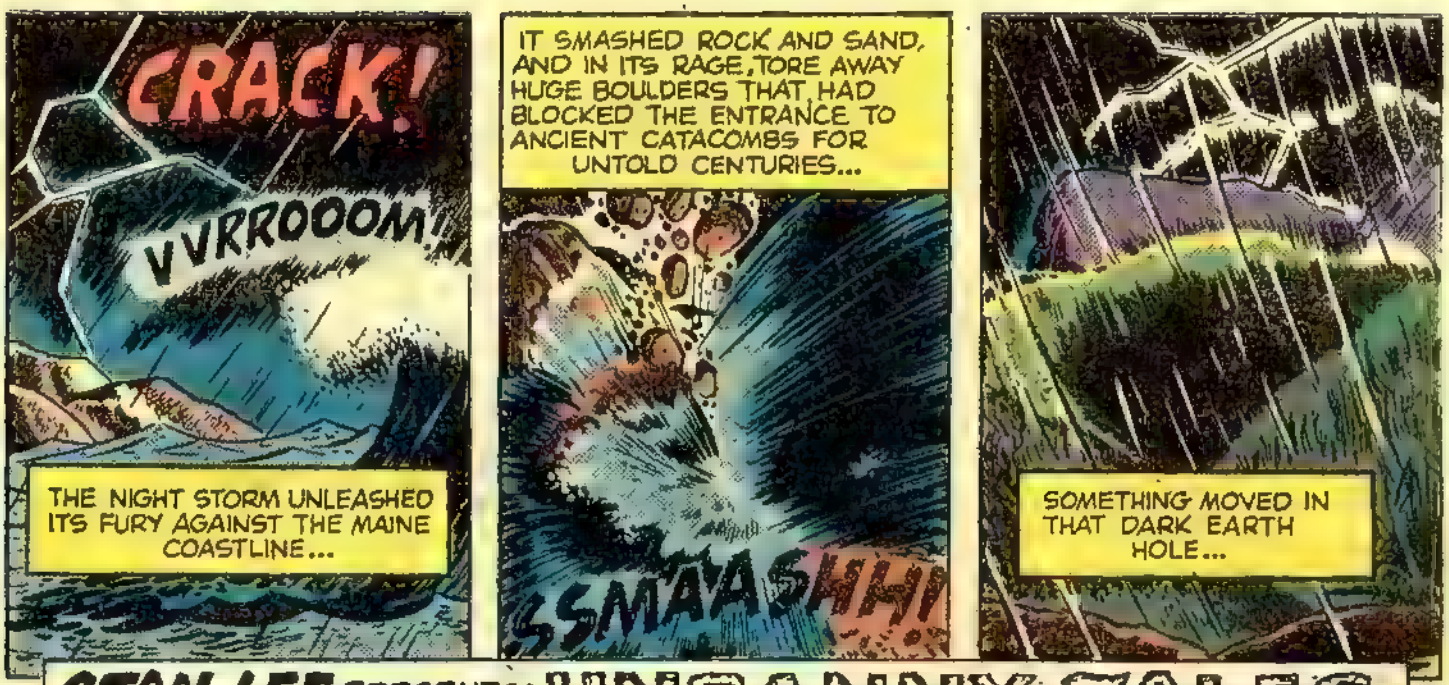
OH, DEAR! I NEVER SAW ONE BEFORE!

IN EXACTLY ONE MINUTE I HAD TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS IN CASH, AND A WHOLE MESS OF WATCHES, RINGS AND PINS!!!

THANK YOU, LADIES! AND NOW I'LL BE GOING!

BUT YOU CAN'T JUST WALK OUT LIKE THAT!

AS A MATTER OF FACT, YER RIGHT! I CAN'T JUST WALK OUT LIKE THIS! IT'S TOO CLOSE TO DINNERTIME!
DINNER-TIME?
GO ON, ALL OF YOU! GIT IN THE KITCHEN AN' MAKE ME SOMETH NG TO EAT! AN' BE QUICK ABOUT IT!
V-VERY WEL..!
COME, AGATHA ... AND EMILY!
MAN! THIS IS THE LIFE! I THINK I'LL STICK TO SMALL TOWNS FROM NOW ON!
YOUNG MAN! DINNER IS SERVED!
AT LAST!
HEY, WHAT IS THIS... A BAG? THERE'S NOTHIN' IN THIS VAT BUT BOILIN' WATER! AN' IT'S BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD A MAN!
WE KNOW! AFTER ALL, IT'S OUR DINNER-TIME, TOO!
TEE HEE!!! ISN'T IT NICE HOW ONE DROPPED IN ON US, WITHOUT US HAVING TO GO OUT AND GET ONE LIKE WE USUALLY DO!
SPLASH
THE END


CRACK!
VVRROOOM!
THE NIGHT STORM UNLEASHED ITS FURY AGAINST THE MAINE COASTLINE...
IT SMASHED ROCK AND SAND, AND IN ITS RAGE, TORE AWAY HUGE BOULDERS THAT HAD BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE TO ANCIENT CATACOMBS FOR UNTOLD CENTURIES...
SSMAASHH!
SOMETHING MOVED IN THAT DARK EARTH HOLE...

STAN LEE PRESENTS: UNCANNY TALES™

the LAST KKRUL

AND OUT OF THE CATACOMBS CRAWLED THE KKRUL... THE LAST OF HIS RACE, AND THE FIRST TO SEE THE EARTH'S SURFACE SINCE ANOTHER STORM, CENTURIES BEFORE, AND ENTOMBED HIS PEOPLE IN THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH!

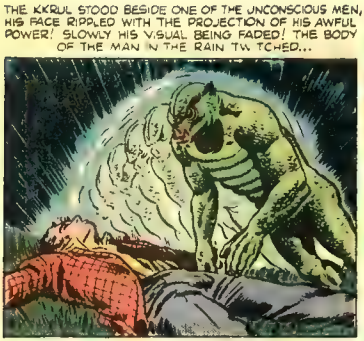
THE EDITORS GUARANTEE THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST ASTONISHING STORIES YOU'VE EVER READ!

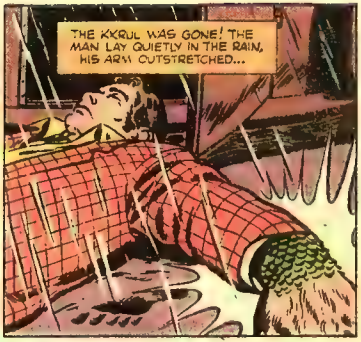
ART: JOHN ROMITA

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN ASTONISHING TALES #18

THE CREATURE FELT THE WIND AND THE RAIN AGAINST ITS BODY... AND IT FELT GOOD...
SENSATION SATISFIED. THE KKRUL'S MIND BEGAN TO WORK! THIS WAS NO SLUG FROM THE EARTH...THIS WAS A CREATURE OF VAST AND UNGUESSED KNOWLEDGE, SURVIVOR OF A CIVILIZATION STEEPED IN DARK SECRETS...
THE OLD BOOKS TOLD OF THE PEOPLE INHABITING THE SURFACE! THEY KILL WHAT THEY FEAR...AND THEY FEAR WHAT THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND! THEY WOULD KILL ME!
I WILL NOT GO BACK BELOW! IT IS GOOD ON THE SURFACE! SINCE I DO NOT WISH TO DIE, I WILL FIND A MAN-CREATURE AND BY OSMOSIS, AS THE OLD ONES TAUGHT, I WILL MERGE MY BEING INTO HIS BODY AND BECOME HIM!
SO SHALL I BECOME A SURFACE BEING...ONLY ONE SIGN WILL SHOW THAT I INHABIT A MAN'S BODY! THE RING OF WRIST SCALES...THE TELL-TALE MARK OF A KKRUL!
THE RAIN FELL UPON THE UNDER-EARTH CREATURE IN BLINDING SHEETS...AND OPAQUED THE WINDSHIELD OF THE CAR CAREENING THRU THE STORM ON THE NEARBY HIGHWAY!
CRACK!
SCRREEECHH!
CRASH!
THREE MEN...THREE FRIENDS ON A HUNTING TRIP, LAY IN THE CAR, UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE SMASH-UP! THEN THE KKRUL APPEARED...
A FORTUNATE THING! THEIR MINDS HAVE FLED FROM THEIR BODIES FOR A FEW MOMENTS! I WILL PICK THE BIGGEST AND STRONGEST, AND WITH HIS BODY I SHALL MERGE...
2

DAREDEVIL MEETS THE MAN THING! YOU KNOW IT— IN DD #114!


THE KKRUL STOOD BESIDE ONE OF THE UNCONSCIOUS MEN, HIS FACE RIPPLED WITH THE PROJECTION OF HIS AWFUL POWER! SLOWLY HIS VISUAL BEING FADED! THE BODY OF THE MAN IN THE RAIN TWITCHED...



DOC ADMINISTERED FIRST AID TO HIS TWO FRIENDS...
DRINK THIS, STAN! BOY, ARE WE LUCKY...NOTHING BUT A FEW BRUISES!
YEAH... WE'RE VERY LUCKY!

CAN'T WE GET OUT OF THIS RAIN BEFORE WE ALL DROWN?
THE CABIN ISN'T FAR...WE CAN WALK IT! SOON AS IT CLEARS I'LL COME DOWN AND GET OUR GEAR!

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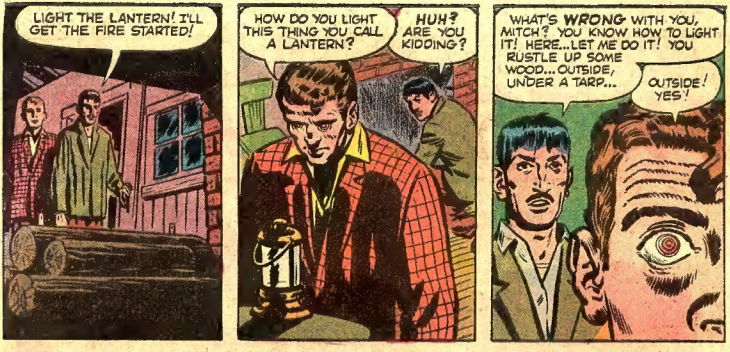
LIGHT THE LANTERN! I'LL GET THE FIRE STARTED!
HOW DO YOU LIGHT THIS THING YOU CALL A LANTERN?
HUH? ARE YOU KIDDING?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, MITCH? YOU KNOW HOW TO LIGHT IT! HERE...LET ME DO IT! YOU RUSTLE UP SOME WOOD... OUTSIDE, UNDER A TARP...
OUTSIDE! YES!

MITCH! HEY...MITCH! MITCH, DON'T YOU HEAR ME?
I AM SORRY! THE NAME IS NOT YET FAMILIAR! I'LL GET THE WOOD!
YEAH! AND STOP ACTING LIKE YOU'RE IN A FOG!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH MITCH? HE SURE IS ACTIN' FUNNY!
HERE'S THE STUFF, STAN! BOY, AM I TIRED! LOOKS LIKE A GOOD DAY TOMORROW...LET'S HIT THE SACK SO WE CAN START EARLY!

THEY SLEPT...THAT IS, DOC AND STAN DID! A KKRUL NEVER SLEEPS, AND THE BORROWED BODY THAT WAS MITCH, SOFTLY PROWLED THE CABIN ALL NIGHT, WAITING FOR THE DAWN...

AFTER BREAKFAST THE NEXT MORNING, STAN CLEARED THE TABLE WHILE MITCH WENT FOR WATER...

LYCANTHROPY, SATANISM, AND THE FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER— ALL IN GIANT-SIZE WEREWOLF #2!

SO YOU NOTICED IT, TOO, HUH? Y'KNOW, I WOKE UP A COUPLE OF TIMES DURING THE NIGHT, AND BOTH TIMES HE WAS PADDING UP AND DOWN THE ROOM!
I KNOW! HE DIDN'T SLEEP... LOOK AT HIS BED! HE'S BEEN ACTING AWFUL STRANGE... AND HIS EYES...
LISTEN, DOC, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU! WHILE I WAS KNOCKED OUT AFTER THE ACCIDENT, I THOUGHT I CAME TO FOR A MINUTE... I THOUGHT I SAW A LIZARD-LIKE CREATURE... IT LOOKED SO REAL!
TAKE IT EASY, STAN! THAT WAS PROBABLY A DREAM WHILE YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS! WE'LL KEEP OUR EYES ON MITCH! MAYBE HE CRACKED HIS HEAD HARDER THAN WE THOUGHT! TAKE HIM HUNTING... MAYBE IT WILL HELP! I'LL BE BACK SOON!
THAT DREAM! IT SEEMED SO REAL!
MITCH, LET'S SCOUT THE GAME TRAILS AND SEE WHAT WE CAN SCARE UP UNTIL DOC GETS BACK! HERE'S YOUR GUN!
GUN? OH, YES!
THEY ENTERED THE WOODS! STAN WATCHED MITCH CLOSELY, BUT WHEN MITCH LOOKED BACK AT HIM HE TURNED HIS HEAD...HE COULDN'T STAND THE STRANGE INHUMAN LOOK IN MITCH'S EYES...
I JUST NOTICED! HE NEVER BLINKS HIS EYES! LIKE...LIKE A LIZARD! SOMETHING'S WRONG! THIS ISN'T THE MITCH I'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS! I'M...I'M SCARED! THAT THING... MAYBE IT WASN'T A DREAM...
YOUR WRIST... A BAND OF SCALES! IT WASN'T A DREAM... IT'S TRUE! YOU AREN'T MITCH...
SO YOU'VE GUESSED SOMETHING OF THE TRUTH... GUESSED TOO MUCH! YOU HAVE SEEN THE TELL-TALE MARK OF THE KKRUL!
I AM OF A DIFFERENT WORLD THAN YOURS, AND I HAVE BORROWED YOUR FRIEND'S BODY SO I CAN LIVE IN THIS WORLD!
YOU HAVE SEEN THE BAND OF SCALES WHICH MARKS THE BODY OF ONE WITH WHOM A KKRUL MERGES! YOU KNOW TOO MUCH... YOU MUST DIE...
GET AWAY...

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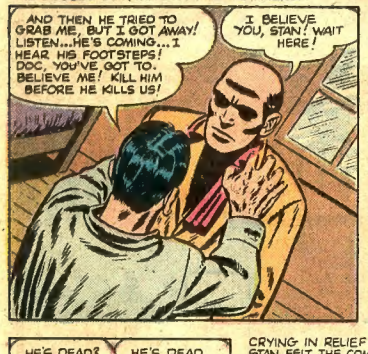
SOBBING, GIBBERING, STAN RAN THRU THE WOODS, FEAR GIVING HIM FLEETNESS! CLOUDS ABOVE RACED WITH HIM. DARKENING THE SKY, AND HEAVY DROPS OF RAIN PATTED THE LEAVES...

IT WAS RAINING HARD AS HE REACHED THE CABIN...

DOC! DOC! HE'S AFTER ME! DON'T LET HIM GET ME! IT AIN'T MITCH! IT'S A... A KKRUL...A MONSTER! DOC...SAVE ME!
EASY STAN! TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE FOUND OUT!

HE SOBBED OUT THE STORY TO HIS FRIEND...


AND THEN HE TRIED TO GRAB ME, BUT I GOT AWAY! LISTEN...HE'S COMING...I HEAR HIS FOOTSTEPS! DOC, YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! KILL HIM BEFORE HE KILLS US!
I BELIEVE YOU, STAN! WAIT HERE!

STAN CROUCHED IN A CORNER...TENSE...WAITING. AFTER DOC WALKED OUT INTO THE RAIN! HE WAS SHAKING, PITIFUL...THEN SUDDENLY HE STIFFENED! TWO SHOTS THUNDERED OUTSIDE...SOMEONE SCREAMED...

CRYING IN RELIEF AND GRATITUDE, STAN FELT THE COMFORTING HAND OF HIS FRIEND ON HIS SHOULDER...

THEN HE SAW THE TELL-TALE MARK ON THE WRIST OF THAT COMFORTING HAND! THE HAND THAT CREPT TOWARD HIS THROAT...AND HE FELT THE UNBLINKING EYES UPON HIM...

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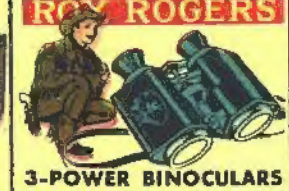

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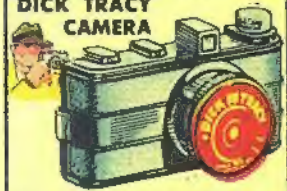

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